The limit for declaration of purchases of wheat has also been reduced from 50,000 tonnes in RMS 2007-08 to 10,000 tonnes in RMS 2008-09.

Streamlining the PDS

3438. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to streamline the Public Distribution System, (PDS) adding more essential commodities to the PDS list to check the prices of essential commodities in the open market; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Strengthening of Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) by streamlining its functioning is a continuous process. The Government has been taking a series of measures to streamline functioning of the TPDS.

In view of rise in prices of essential commodities witnessed during the recent past, Government has decided to import about one million tons of edible oils to allocate them to State and UT Governments at subsidized prices. These edible oils are to be distributed to BPL including AAY families. The State and UT Governments may organize this distribution through the network of fair price shops or other distribution channels.

Revised rates to Andhra Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation

3439. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a request of the Government of Andhra Pradesh to Food Corporation of India to pay revised rates *w.e.f.* 1-4-2002 to Andhra Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation on par wtih other Central and State Warehousing Corporations;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. According to FCI, the request of Government of Andhra Pradesh to revise the Godown rates in respect of private investor godowns acquired by Andhra Pradesh State Warehousing Corporation (APSWC) was placed before the Board of Directors of the Food Corporation of India for their approval. The Board of Directors of the FCI in its meeting held on 29.10.2007, decided that the FCI should enter into a dialogue with the State Warehousing Corporations in order to reach **a** mutually acceptable arrangement and then approach the

Board of Directors of FCI for approval. A detailed proposal in this regard will be placed before the Board of Directors of the FCI for approval.

(d) Does not arise.

Training to officers and members of consumer forums

3440. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme to provide training to the presiding officers and members of the State and district forums constituted under the Consumer Protection Act;

(b) if so, the number of personnel trained so far, State-wise and the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) the details of the type of training given;

(d) whether the judgements/orders of these forums have been assessed after the training; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Consumer Affairs has been sponsoring training programmes being conducted by Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi for the Presidents and Members of District Forums and Members of the State Commission, under the guidance of National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission.

(b) So far 1444 Presidents/Members of Consumer Forums have undergone training of IIPA. A Statement containing the State-wise details is annexed *{See* below). As regards State-wise details of expenditure incurred so far, no such State-wise details are being maintained.

(c) These training programmes are designed to keep the participants abreast with the knowledge on the various consumer related legislations, besides improving their skills in writing of judgements/orders.

(d) and (e) No such assessment of judgements/orders of the Consumer Forums is made after training of Presidents and Members of the Consumer Fora.

Statement

Members of State Commissions and Presidents/Members of District Consumer Forum Trained so far by the IIPA Since 1994

SI. No.	Name of the States/UT	State Commission		District Forum		Total
		Presidents	Members	Presidents	Members	
1	2 Andhra	4	5	6	7	8
2	Pradesh A & N	esh	1	12	59 8	71
3	Islands	4		6 9 2		14
4	Arunachal Pradi			26		10
	Assam					32